

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06510 221753Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9571

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, GW

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL--GAO REPORT

1. I HAVE REVIEWED THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE DRAFT REPORT RE THE US INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM. YOU MIGHT FIND THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS HELPFUL IN DISCUSSING THE DRAFT REPORT WITH GAO OFFICIALS:

A. PAGE 73 OF THE REPORT NOTES THAT "GERMANY HAS SHOWN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM IN A NUMBER OF WAYS, INCLUDING THE REMOVAL OF A HISTORIC BARRIER TO THE GRANTING OF COUNTRY-WIDE POWERS TO ITS CENTRAL NARCOTICS UNIT OFFICE. HOWEVER, THIS ACTION HAS NOT BEEN MATCHED BY ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE OFFICE'S BROADENED RESPONSIBILITIES. WHILE THIS MAY BE ONLY A TEMPORARY PROBLEM IN GERMANY..."

THE GAO REPORT WAS WRITTEN SHORTLY AFTER AUTHORITY WAS GRANTED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NARCOTICS
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PAGE 02 BONN 06510 221753Z

CONTROL UNIT WITHIN THE FRG FEDERAL CRIMINAL

OFFICE. FUNDING, MANPOWER AND EQUIPMENT FOLLOWED IN SHORT ORDER. THE GAO COMMENT RE FUNDING FOR THE UNIT IS THEREFORE INCORRECT. IT WOULD BE MOST UNHELPFUL TO MY EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE THE FRG TO UPGRADE ITS NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY WERE THE MISLEADING COMMENT CITED ABOVE TO APPEAR IN AN OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION.

B. THE GAO REPORT SUGGESTS (PP 80-85) THAT NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTION PLANS SHOULD LIST "SPECIFIC PROJECTS" WITH "QUANTITATIVE CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION." I REALIZE THAT THIS IS AN OVERALL EVALUATION BY THE GAO. NEVERTHELESS, I WISH TO POINT OUT THAT WHILE THE RECOMMENDATION MIGHT BE VALID FOR USG NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAMS IN THOSE COUNTRIES IN WHICH WE HAVE INVESTED CONSIDERABLE FUNDS AND MATERIAL, AND THEREFORE HAVE SOME CONTROL OVER THE PROGRAMS, SUCH IS NOT THE CASE IN THE FRG. ANY "SPECIFIC PROJECTS" IN GERMANY ARE CARRIED OUT BY THE FRG AND FUNDING FOR SUCH PROJECTS IS SUPPLIED (EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN TRAINING PROGRAMS) WHOLLY BY THE FRG. ESTABLISHING "QUANTITATIVE CRITERIA" UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES IS MEANINGLESS.
HILLENBRAND

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